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SWEPT TO DEATH

Cedar Keys Overwhelmed by a Tidal Wave.

TWENTY BODIES ALREADY FOUND

Loss of Life in the State May Reach One Hundred.

FEARS FOR THE FISHERMEN

NEW ORLEANS, October 2.—A special dispatch from Jacksonville, Fla., to the Times-Democrat says:

Cedar Keys is a place of desolation and death. Today many of the people are corpses, many others are injured and there are but few houses left standing. Twenty corpses have been recovered, but few have been identified, so mutilated were they by falling timbers. Many of the corpses were dug out of the mud, in which they were buried by the mighty tidal wave that swept over the town Tuesday morning.

The town is situated at the mouth of the Suwannee river, on a number of small keys, connected by bridges. It had no protection, and went to pieces when the West India hurricane, with a velocity of eighty miles an hour, came roaring from the gulf. The storm struck the place about 3:30 o'clock Tuesday morning and continued for several hours. Though warning had been given, nothing indicated a blow of unusual severity. Up to 11 o'clock the night was calm and quiet. At that hour a moderate breeze sprang up from the eastward, increasing gradually until at 3:40-mile wind was blowing.

An Immense Tidal Wave

About 4 a.m. it blew a perfect tornado, and suddenly changed to the southeast, bringing in a perfect deluge of water, the tide rising two feet higher than in the memorable gale of 1894, which was at the time said to be the worst storm on record. At 7 o'clock an immense tidal wave came in from the south, carrying destruction with it. Boats, wharves and small houses were hurled upon the shore, and breaking into fragments, covered the streets with wreckage, and rendered them almost impassable. While the torrents of water were rushing through every open space, it would take the strongest man off of his feet. It was this tidal wave that caused the principal loss of life, many houses being swept from their foundations and the inmates drowned.

Of the twenty bodies recovered twelve are whites and eight colored. Of the whites six belonged to the Wilson family, a mother, four children and a young lady visitor. Four of the white victims are men, and have not yet been identified. Of the eight negroes only one, Peter Anderson, has been identified.

Many Fishermen Drowned

The loss of life at Cedar Keys proper is as nothing in comparison with the number of spongers and fishermen who were drowned. The Mary Eliza came in yesterday morning dismasted. She reports that at dark Monday night nearly 100 vessels were anchored on the sponge bar below Cedar Keys, and that all of them but seven were lost. These boats carried from four to ten men each. The loss of life was great, eight corpses have already been recovered, and many others are believed to be sunk and eight of her crew drowned.

The handsome Methodist Episcopal Church, the Southern Baptist church, the building, the Christian Church and three colored churches, the Suwannee ice factory and the Eagle Pencil Company's mill, also the large lumber yard of V. H. Hays, the planning mill of George W. Mercer & Sons, and scores of private residences were also wrecked by the wind and waves. Some of the handsome and apparently most substantial buildings are damaged beyond repair.

Complete news of the storm from the western part of Levy and Alachua counties has just reached Jacksonville. Not less than 200 families are left destitute, all their crops, fences and crops are totally destroyed, and many of the houses were blown away with the buildings.

The difficulty in recovering the dead bodies from the town is that the town is built on several small islands, and the only communication is by means of boats, and the tide is so high that the bodies are visible just above the water, and each top indicates the burial place of a sponger and his crew.

It is possible that many of the vessels were blown out into the gulf, and rode out the hurricane, but the Mary Eliza's captain reports by far the greater number are beneath the water with their sterns up.

Two gentlemen who went down the coast a few miles this morning returned to Cedar Keys this afternoon and reported finding the corpses of eleven men washed ashore. These men were the crew of a sponging vessel, and the crews of most of the other vessels have been similarly met, a similar fate. It is expected that some more corpses of the spongers will be found along the coast.

One elderly Gertrude is dismantled and abandoned fifteen miles south of Cedar Keys. The Mallory is fast in the Suwannee river swamps. The steamer Belle of Suwannee and C. D. Owens were wrecked in the Suwannee river. The Owens is fast in the river swamps, while the Belle steamer was driven ashore and all her crew gone.

A Terrible Experience

In Cedar Keys those who escaped death had a terrible experience. When the tidal wave came and overwhelmed the houses many of the inmates were in the water, clinging to pieces of timber; others hung to tree tops for hours, until the water receded. They were buffeted by wind and waves, and many men fainted, clinging to the sides of the boats, and with a death grip to the succumbing timbers.

All show the effects in their clothing and bruised flesh, but are thankful to escape with their lives. Many others are still unaccounted for, and families and friends are filled with anxiety, hoping for the best, but fearing the worst in view of the utter destruction wrought by the storm.

Threatened by Fire

The property loss in Cedar Keys is enormous. While the gale was at its height fire broke out in the Bettitt House. In almost a few seconds the building was wrapped in flames, which quickly communicated to the handsome Schleimer Hotel, adjoining, and in a very short time nothing was left of either house, except bare walls. The inmates saved nothing, so the fire and sudden wind, with the full force of the flames and raging flood below, they were too badly frightened to attempt more than the saving of life. They made their escape by wading through four feet of water.

The firm of Parsons & Hale had a warehouse unroofed and much stock damaged. Cottrill & Finlay's warehouse and boat-

No 13,599.

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Owing to the demoralization of the telephone system as a result of Tuesday night's storm, it was no easy matter to spread the news rapidly, and the assistance of the police was invoked. In this way all persons who were interested in the matter were given ample notice that trouble might be expected. In some cases merchandise which was stored on the wharves, was removed to places of safety, and the vessels that were tied up along the river front were put in shape to withstand a flood.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1896—TWELVE PAGES.

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"Attempts have been made to show that Mr. Watson favored fusion in the state of Indiana.

"It is not correct. Mr. Watson took the position at the beginning of the campaign that no populist could consistently vote for a single Sewall elector any more than he could vote for a Hobart elector.

"He filed with Chairman Butler a written protest against Mr. Butler's fusion policy. Mr. Butler has ignored Mr. Watson's protest and gone steadily forward on his own where a stop is made.

"Mr. Watson's position is now what it was when the Georgia state convention met. He is for a straight 'middle-of-the-road' ticket. In no other way can the democratic managers be forced to abide by the St. Louis contract.

"Mr. Watson's position has been humiliating and embarrassing, and he has been compelled to submit to policies he did not approve."

BRYAN'S INDIANA TRIP

Arrangements Completed for His Bear Platform Address.

CHICAGO, October 2.—Arrangements are completed for Mr. Bryan's trip from Cincinnati tomorrow to St. Louis. The train will make stops long enough for Mr. Bryan to address crowds at the following places in Indiana:

Lawrenceburg, Aurora, North Vernon, Seymour, Mitchell, Washington and Vincennes. Stops will also be made at Lawrenceville, Olney and Ellettsville.

The following schedule for Indiana was also announced:

Tuesday, October 6—Jeffersonville, 7:45 a.m.; New Albany, 8:20 a.m.; Scottsboro, 9:15 a.m.; Seymour, arrive, 9:55, leave, 10:20; Columbus, arrive, 10:55, leave, 11:25 a.m.; Indianapolis, arrive, 11:50 a.m., leave, 12:50 p.m.; Indianapolis, arrive, 12:50 p.m., at the latter place afternoon and evening meetings will be held.

Wednesday, October 7—Noblesville, arrive, 9:10, leave, 9:50 a.m.; Tippecanoe, arrive, 10:15, leave, 10:40 a.m.; Kokomo, arrive, 11:05 a.m., leave, 12:35 p.m.; Logansport, arrive, 12:40, leave, 1:10 p.m.; Ellettsville, arrive, 2:10, leave, 2:40 p.m.; North Judson, stop fifteen minutes; Crown Point, arrive, 5:20, leave, 5:50 p.m.; Hammond, night meeting.

The committee of nomination yesterday filed with the secretary of state by candidates of the national democratic party. The law prescribes that any protest against such certificate must be filed within three days after the filing of the nomination.

"We will file our protest with the Secretary of State tomorrow," said Mr. Danforth. "Should he decide against us we will carry the matter to the courts. The fact is that the side presumes too much when it sets itself up as the 'national democratic party,' and not only that, but the name is confusing, and might cause some to use many votes through ignorance of the voters."

Gorman Might Stump

Another interesting phase was developed today when Mr. Danforth declared that Senator Gorman would place himself in the hands of the state committee, and might even take the stump in its behalf. He had already rendered the committee very valuable advice, Mr. Danforth said.

BRYAN AT CHARLESTON

He Addresses an Enthusiastic Gathering at the Public Park.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., October 2.—The democratic nomination also party the hundreds of citizens of Point Pleasant. He left Wheeling at midnight last night, and at 6 o'clock this morning was routed out of bed by people from the above place, who loudly clamored for a speech. Mr. Bryan told them unless the value of money is important in determining the value of a thing it did not matter whether the people had much money or little, but that the moment the quantitative theory of money was abandoned that moment a foundation of no soundness was acquired.

He said that the money question and to vote as they pleased, regardless of what others may say. His few remarks were applauded and cheered.

At Redhouse, a committee of thirty-five from Charleston met the party, but Mr. Bryan had retired again. The committee was headed by ex-Governor E. Willis Wilson, the democratic nominee for Congress of the third district. At the depot in this city for more than an hour a large crowd had gathered. As the train pulled in the assemblage cheered the nominee and the band at the depot played patriotic airs. Of course, "Hail to the Chief" was also rendered, and "Dixie" came in for its share. Then a procession was formed and the train traversed by band, nominee, mounted police and citizens in carriages.

Mr. Bryan spoke at the public park and addressed a large gathering of enthusiastic auditors.

NOVELTY IN A CAMPAIGN

Cheers of Paraders to Be Borne From Chicago to Ohio and New Jersey.

CHICAGO, October 2.—Echoes of the great gold standard parade in this city on Chicago day, October 9, will be heard from lake side to seaboard. Electrical science has made such a feature possible. The plan is to place transmitters at the best vantage points. Audophones at the other end

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